

12. Description of a new Batrachian from Southern India, belonging to the family Phryniscidæ. By Lieut.-Col. R. H. BEDDOME, C.M.Z.S.

[Received June 17, 1878.]

MELANOBATRACHUS, gen. nov.

Toes cylindrical, not dilated at the ends; no maxillary or vomerine teeth; ear imperfectly developed, no parotids; sacral vertebra dilated; toes webbed; body slender, elongate, uniform in width; muzzle short, obtuse; fingers and toes short, metatarsus with a slightly swollen inconspicuous tubercle.

MELANOBATRACHUS INDICUS, n. sp.

Body with nearly parallel sides as in *Ansonia*; no canthus rostralis, no sign of a tympanum or cavum tympani; cleft of mouth extends nearly as far back as the eyelid, the space between the nares $\frac{1}{10}$ of an inch; fingers 4, free, short, the third double as long as the others; toes 5, slightly webbed, the fourth much longer than the third. Eustachian tubes closed, tongue rounded and free behind, surface of the head and body tubercled, arms smooth, the humerus short, hind limbs tubercled, the thigh shorter than the calf; belly and sides smooth. Colour black, with minute white dots on the back and larger ones on the belly, the thighs near their junction with the body are girt with a brilliant scarlet band, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in breadth, either continuous all round or interrupted above; and there are sometimes a few scarlet blotches on the anterior portion of the belly between the fore legs and sometimes on the lower portion of the humerus (the scarlet colour of these markings fading to cream-colour in spirits). Length of body $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch, length of hind limb to end of fourth toe $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch.

Hab. The Anamallays and the Ghat range to the south of those mountains, very rare, in moist evergreen forests of 4000 feet elevation, under old rotten logs. The specimens found were all in quite a torpid state and curled up almost into a ball, but became very active when put in spirits.

Dr. Anderson, who has kindly prepared the skeleton of one of these Batrachians, informs me that its osteology much more resembles that of *Bufo* than *Rana*; the skull is short and broad, and the frontals and parietals have considerable lateral extension; it is also edentulous, and there are no vomerine eminences; a careful examination of the sternum does not reveal the existence of any omosternum; clavicles are present. Dr. Anderson was not able to detect any tympanum under the skin; nor could he trace a tympanic cavity. He mentions that the stem of the stapes is not developed, and moreover that he could not detect any Eustachian openings in the mouth.

There are only from 8 to 9 vertebræ in *Bufo melanostictus*; and the

first vertebra, which has considerable length and breadth, is marked on its under surface by a prominent ridge which does not occur in the above-mentioned Indian toad.

The transverse processes of the sacral vertebra are dilated as in *Bufo*.

13. On *Gazella granti*. By Sir VICTOR BROOKE,
Bart., F.Z.S.

[Received June 17, 1878.]

Some years ago (*vide* P. Z. S. 1872, p. 601. pl. xli.) I had the pleasure of bringing before the Society's notice a species of *Gazella* which I supposed to be new, and upon which I conferred provisionally the name *Gazella granti*. My original description of the species was based on small water-colour sketches of the head and flat skins of a male and female obtained by Capt. Speke and Col. Grant in Ugogo, which were executed by them previous to the dispatch of the specimens to England. When writing my first notice, I believed that these specimens had been lost, there being no record of their arrival at the Society's rooms, where Capt. Speke had expressed a wish that they should be kept until his return; but Col. Grant has since informed me that they reached England safely and are still preserved along with some other objects of natural history collected by Capt. Speke, in Capt. Speke's father's house.

In 1875 Dr. Kirk presented to the Society (*vide* P. Z. S. 1875, p. 527, pl. lix.) the first living specimen of the species which had ever been exhibited in Europe. Unfortunately the animal, a very young female, arrived in very delicate health, and died shortly afterwards. It is now preserved in the British Museum (spec. 75. 12. 29. 4), whither it was transferred after Mr. Sclater's exhibition of it to the Society. It was not, however, till towards the end of last year that the first specimen of an adult male of this magnificent gazelle came under my personal observation. The animal was shot by Mr. Charles Arkwright, about 8 miles from the village of Tubugwe, which is situated, as nearly as Mr. Arkwright could ascertain, about 50 miles N.E. of Ugogo. It was one of a herd composed of about 20 individuals, amongst which there was one other old male. Mr. Arkwright has most kindly intrusted his valuable trophy to my care; so that I am enabled to exhibit it to the Society this evening, and to base upon it and upon the young female in the British Museum a fuller and more accurate description of the species than was possible at the time of my original notice.

GAZELLA GRANTI.

1863. *Antilope sømmerringii*? Speke, P. Z. S. 1863, p. 3, sp. 15.

1872. *Gazella granti*, Brooke, P. Z. S. 1872, p. 601, pl. xli.

1873. *Gazella granti*, Brooke, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 550.

1875. *Gazella granti*, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1875, p. 535.

General colour very rich fawn tinged with purple, the neck and